(d) Steps being taken to achieve the targets set for SAIL plants for 1991-92 are mainly:—

(i) Ensure adequate availability of inputs of right quality in the required quantity;

(ii) Improved maintenance of plant and equipment;

(iii) Augment the captive power generation.

Cooperative Credit Societies

168. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of borrowing Members of cooperative societies and share of co-operatives in agricultural credit have gone down; and

(b)) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to revitalise co-operative credit societies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLAY RAMACHANDRAN). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Poor resource base, low member participation, high percentage of overdues and unviable lending operations are the chief causes for the declining role of credit cooperatives in the disimbursement of agricultural credit. The Agricultural Credit Review Committee which examined the reasons for the weaknesses in credit cooperatives, recommended that an action programme be drawn up for each Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society for making it viable.

Accordingly, a Business Development Planning Programme has been initiated for revitalisation of Primary Agricultural Cooperatives, which aims at increasing member participation, improving deposit mobilisation and increasing the overall business of Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies all over the country.

National Cooperative Bank

169. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up a national cooperative bank; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies has received a proposal for registration of National Cooperative Bank of India under Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984 and the Rules thereunder from National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), the Chief Promoters. The proposal is for setting up of a cooperative bank at National level with the membership of state level|national level Apex Cooperatives Bank and urban co-operative Banks. The objective of the proposed bank is to serve as balancing centre for cooperative banking institutions in the country by mobilising surplus funds from the cooperative sector and to invest them in other sectors of cooperatives. As the proposal relates to setting up of a bank, the approval of Reserve Bank of India has been sought.

Comprehensives Agricultural Policy

170. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are formulating a comprehensive agricultural policy resolution;

(b) if so, what are the main features thereof; and

(c) in what respect it differs from the earlier policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) A draft of an Agricultural Policy Resolution formulated in March, 1991 had been circulated to the State Governments, U.Ts. and Agricultural Universities for eliciting their comments. Nine States|U.Ts. have sent their comments. After the receipt of ocmments from the State Governments furthe action will be taken.

Telephone facilities in village Panchyats in Rajasthan

171. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of village Panchayats in Rajasthan presently having telephone facilities;

(b) whether there is any action plan under Government's consideration to provide telephones to the remaining village panchyats of Rajasthan; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 2592.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Out of 7353 total Village Panchayats, 2592 are provided with telephone facilities as on 31-10-1991. The remaining village Panchayats are planned to be provided with telephone facility progressively by 31-3-1995.

First Afro-Asian Gmes in Delhi

172. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of HUMEN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken by Government for hosting the first Afro-Asian Games (AAG) in the capital next year;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the stage at which the matter rests at present;

(c) whether South Africa has been permitted to participate in these games; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for granting the permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (d) The proposal received from the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) to host First Afro-Asian Games in the Capital next year is under consideration of Government. The question of allowing South Africa to participate in these Games, therefore, does not arise.

Demands of the All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Assoicatio

173. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased